

Amendments to The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A pick combination adapted for use in strumming/picking strings of a musical instrument, comprising:

a pick having a first surface and a second surface opposing the first surface;

a thumb pad attached to the first surface of the pick;

the thumb pad having a third surface attached to the first surface of the pick; and

the thumb pad having a fourth surface opposing the third surface and having an angular relationship with the third surface of the pad.

11. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 10, wherein:

the pick has a tip and a back edge disposed in proximity to the tip of the pick and a second edge disposed in proximity to the back edge of the pick; and

the first edge of the pad is thinner than the second edge of the pad.

12. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 10, wherein:

the pick extends longitudinally along a first line extending between the tip and the back edge of the pick;

the pad is tapered along a second line extending between a first edge of the pad and a second edge of the pad; and

the second line of the pad is transverse to the first line of the pick.

13. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 12, wherein the first edge of the pad is disposed on one side of the first line and the second edge of the pad is disposed on the other side of the first line.

14. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 13, wherein:

the first surface of the pick is disposed in a first plane; and

the second surface of the pick is disposed in a second plane having an angular relationship with the first plane.

15. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 11, wherein the pick is tapered from the tip of the pick to the back edge of the pick.

16. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 11, wherein the pick is thicker at the tip than at the back edge.

17. (Original) The pick combination recited in Claim 11, further comprising:

a pair of side edges extending from the tip of the pick to the back edge of the pick; and

at least one of the side edges being convex and at least a portion of the back edge being concave.

18-22. (Canceled).

23. (Original) A pick pad adapted for attachment to a stringed instrument pick, comprising:

a pad including a first major surface and a second major surface formed with an axis extending between a front edge of the pad and a back edge of the pad;

the axis generally bifurcating the pad into generally equivalent areas of the pad the first surface of the pad including a first taper extending generally along the axis and a second taper extending generally transverse to the axis; and

means disposed on the second major surface of the pad for attaching the pad to the stringed instrument pick.

24. (Original) The pick pad recited in Claim 23, wherein the pad is formed of felt.

25. (Original) The pick pad recited in Claim 23, wherein the pad is formed of a resilient material.

26-37 (Canceled).

38. (Previously Presented). The pick combination recited in Claim 10, and adapted for use by a user having a thumb with a meatus, further comprising:

the pick adapted to be held by the user and to be moved in a contacting and strumming relationship with the strings of the musical instrument;

a thumb sleeve adapted for disposition on the thumb of the user;

attachment means including a first structure carried by the sleeve and a second structure carried by the pick, the attachment means being adapted for releasably attaching the pick to the sleeve;

the attached pick being moveable by the fingers of the user between a first position and a second position spaced from the first position on the meatus of the thumb;

wherein the pick has a generally planar configuration and the combination further comprises:

a pad disposed on the side of the pick opposite the attachment means; and

the pad having a first surface generally parallel to the plane of the pick and a second surface generally non-parallel to the plane of the pick.

39. (Previously Presented) The pick combination recited in Claim 38, wherein the pad is tapered.

40. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 10 further comprising:

a sleeve having a tubular configuration and extending longitudinally between a proximal opening and a distal opening, the sleeve having an exterior surface, and an interior surface defining an interior region of the sleeve;

the pick having a tip and being disposed relative to the sleeve with the tip extending exteriorly of the sleeve; and

attachment means for removably coupling the pick to the sleeve.

41. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 40, wherein the attachment means and the pick are disposed exteriorly of the sleeve.

42. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 40, wherein the attachment means and the pick are disposed in the interior region of the sleeve with the tip of the pick projecting exteriorly of the sleeve.

43. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 42, wherein the tip of the pick extends through the distal opening of the sleeve.

44. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 42, wherein:

portions of the sleeve define a lateral hole extending through the sleeve;
and

the tip of the pick extends exteriorly of the sleeve through the lateral hole.

45. (New) The pick combination as recited in claim 10, and adapted for use by a user having a thumb with a meatus, further comprising:

the pick adapted to be held by the user and to be moved in a contacting and strumming relationship with the strings of the musical instrument;

a thumb sleeve adapted for disposition on the thumb of the user;
attachment means including a first structure carried by the sleeve and a second structure carried by the pick, the attachment means being adapted for releasably attaching the pick to the sleeve; and

the attached pick being moveable by the fingers of the user between a first position and a second position spaced from the first position on the meatus of the thumb.

46. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 45, wherein:

the thumb is disposed generally in a plane and has a tip and a longitudinal configuration; and

the first position is laterally spaced from the second position on the meatus of the thumb.

47. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 45, wherein in the thumb is disposed generally in a plane and has a tip and a longitudinal configuration; and

the first position is longitudinally spaced from the second position on the meatus of the thumb.

48. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 46, wherein:

the pick in the first position has a first angle relative to the plane of the thumb; and

the pick in the second position has a second angle different than the first angle relative to the plane of the thumb.

49. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 46, wherein:

the pick in the first position is disposed in a proximal relationship to the tip of the thumb; and

the pick in the second position is disposed in a spaced relationship with the tip of the thumb.

50. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 48, wherein:

the first position is an extended position; and

the second position is a retracted position.

51. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 50, further comprising:

means for biasing the pick to the second position.

52. (New) A pick apparatus adapted for use by a user having a thumb with a meatus, to strum/pick strings of a musical instrument, comprising:

a pick adapted to be held by the user and to be moved in a contacting and strumming relationship with the strings of the musical instrument;

a thumb sleeve configured to be disposed around the thumb of the user, whereby said pick apparatus is configured for use by the user having said thumb; and

means for releasably attaching the pick to the thumb sleeve.

53. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 52, wherein said means for releasably attaching the pick to the thumb sleeve comprises hook and loop patches.

54. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 52, wherein the thumb is disposed generally in a plane and has a tip and a longitudinal configuration, and wherein the first position is laterally spaced from the second position on the meatus of the thumb.

55. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 52, wherein the apparatus is configured so that in the thumb is disposed generally in a plane and has a tip and a longitudinal configuration; and the first position is longitudinally spaced from the second position on the meatus of the thumb.

56. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 53, wherein the pick in the first position has a first angle relative to the plane of the thumb, and the pick in the second position has a second angle different than the first angle relative to the plane of the thumb.

57. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 54, wherein the pick in the first position is disposed in a proximal relationship to the tip of the thumb; and the pick in the second position is disposed in a spaced relationship with the tip of the thumb.

58. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 53, wherein:

the first position is an extended position; and

the second position is a retracted position.

59. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 52, further comprising:

means for biasing the pick to the second position.

60. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 52, wherein the pick has a generally planar configuration and the apparatus further comprises:

a pad disposed on the side of the pick opposite the attachment means; and

the pad having a first surface generally parallel to the plane of the pick and a second surface generally non-parallel to the plane of the pick.

61. (New) The pick apparatus recited in Claim 60, wherein the pad is tapered.

65. (New) A pick combination adapted for use in strumming/picking the strings of a musical instrument, comprising:

a sleeve having a tubular configuration and comprising a fabric material; a seam in the fabric material, used in joining said fabric material to form said tubular configuration;

said sleeve further having a tubular configuration and extending longitudinally between a proximal opening and a distal opening, the sleeve having an exterior surface, and an interior surface defining an interior region of the sleeve; and

a pick having a tip and being disposed relative to the sleeve with the tip extending exteriorly of the sleeve.

67. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 66, further comprising attachment means for removably coupling the pick to the sleeve.

68. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 67, wherein the attachment means and the pick are disposed exteriorly of the sleeve.

69. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 67, wherein the attachment means and the pick are disposed in the interior region of the sleeve with the tip of the pick projecting exteriorly of the sleeve.

70. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 69, wherein the tip of the pick extends through the distal opening of the sleeve.

71. (New) The pick combination recited in Claim 69, wherein:

portions of the sleeve define a lateral hole extending through the sleeve; and

the tip of the pick extends exteriorly of the sleeve through the lateral hole.